UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAY 1 7 2007

U.S. PATENT AND TRADE MARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte JUDITH M. VANDEWINCKEL, VINCENZO G. MARCELLO, GRAZYNA E. KMIECIK-LAWRYNOWICZ, TIE HWEE NG and CHIEH-MIN CHENG

Application 10/743,097

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on March 5, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.

An examination of the Image File Wrapper (IFW) reveals that an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on December 14, 2005.

Application 10/743,097

It is not apparent from the record whether the examiner considered the statement submitted or notified appellants regarding why their submission did not meet the criteria set forth in 37 CFR §§ 1.197 and 1.98. A communication notifying appellants of the Primary Examiner's decision is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the examiner:

1) for consideration of the IDS filed December 14, 2005, and written notification to appellants regarding the Primary Examiner's decision; and

2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

 $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{v}$

PÁTRICK J. NOLAN

Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator

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PJN:psb

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